

November 2018

*"The problem is not the problem; the problem is your attitude about the problem." - Captain Jack Sparrow*

Serving With Pride

**In this issue:**

- Good Things Are Happening In Alvin!

Page 2

- Shopping Safety Tips
- Looking To Volunteer?
- Staff Spotlight

**You Changed Your Clock, But Did You Change Your Battery?**



On November 4, you turned your clocks back an hour. But what about your batteries? The Alvin Fire Department would like to remind you that you should also change the batteries in your smoke detectors and other safety equipment. The old saying is ... "Change Your Clock, Change Your Battery."

**Alvin City Hall**  
**216 West Sealy**  
**Alvin, Texas 77511**  
**281-388-4200**

**Office Hours:**  
**Monday—Thursday**  
**7:00 a.m. — 6:00 p.m.**  
[www.alvin-tx.gov](http://www.alvin-tx.gov)



# Community Connection

## Good Things Are Happening In Alvin!

On Tuesday, October 9, Mayor Pro Tem Keith Thompson delivered the 2018 State of the City address to the Alvin-Manvel Area Chamber of Commerce. In a packed Knights of Columbus Hall, Thompson proudly declared that "Good things are happening in Alvin!" And indeed, there are.

Sales Tax revenues have steadily increased over the last decade, including an 8.3% increase from 2017 to 2018. Hotel Occupancy Tax (HOT) revenues have likewise continued to increase with a record \$384,011 collected thus far in 2018. As Sales Tax and HOT revenues have increased, Mayor Pro Tem Thompson proudly reaffirmed the City Council's stance to provide quality services, while keeping the City's property tax rate as low as possible. Over the past 6 years, the Alvin City Council has steadily lowered the City's Property Tax rate from \$0.8438 per \$100 assessed in Tax Year 2012 to \$0.7880 per \$100 assessed in Tax Year 2018.

The City continues to grow physically as well with \$54.4 million in commercials building permits and \$15.7 residential building permits being issued in Fiscal Year '17-'18 with many new residential and commercial developments still on their way. New transportation developments continue to progress such as the FM 528 Extension and the Grand Parkway Segment B. And the City has commenced one of its largest infrastructure building programs in its history with \$42 million of utility projects started in Fiscal Year '17-'18 alone.

Finally, the City continues to provide quality recreation options for residents and visitors 14 parks and numerous activities. In April, the City took on management of the Tour de Braz, a BP MS 150 Recommended Ride, and, on Saturday, November 17, volunteers from throughout Alvin will help construct the City's second KaBoom! playground at Newman Park.

We thank Mayor Horn, Mayor Pro Tem Thompson, and all the members of the Alvin City Council for their dedicated service and leadership to the Alvin community. There are definitely good things happening in Alvin!



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*"The problem is not the problem; the problem is your attitude about the problem." - Captain Jack Sparrow***Did You Know?**

Here at the City of Alvin, the City Council and staff want to make it easy and convenient for you to find important information. Our Council meetings, are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays of each month at 7 pm in our Council Chambers located at 216 W. Sealy. We also recognize that people are busy, and it is not always possible to attend the meetings in person. Council meetings are broadcast live, video-taped, and posted online. You can find the videos by going to our home page and clicking on the 'City Government' tab (a drop-down menu will appear) then scrolling down to the bottom and clicking on 'Video Archive-City Council Meetings'. Tune in at your convenience!

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**Holiday Shopping: Alvin PD Wants You To Be Safe**

It's holiday shopping season once again. The Alvin Police Department has some tips for keeping yourself safe as you're out and about.

- ★ Situational Awareness: Be aware of your surroundings. Don't allow yourself to be distracted while shopping, while walking to/from your car, or by texting or talking on your cell phone.
- ★ Purses: Don't leave your purse unattended in your shopping cart.
- ★ Parking Lots: Make sure valuables are out of sight and that you have your keys in hand then lock your car! Remember to lock your car at home as well!
- ★ Package Thefts: Package thefts increase as the Holiday season approaches. If possible have your online purchases delivered to a location where someone is available to receive the package. A friend or neighbor who works from home, your work or business if they allow or consider using "ship to store" features from retailers that allow you to pick your online purchase up directly at the store.

**Looking For A Way To Play A Role In Your Community?**

Are you interested in serving on a board or commission for the City of Alvin? City Council will consider board appointments in December.

Fill out a Consent and Willingness to Serve form found on the City's website: [www.alvin-tx.gov](http://www.alvin-tx.gov) (Government tab, then select Boards & Commissions) by 12 p.m. on Monday, December 3, 2018.

Vacancies may occur on the following: Planning Commission, Alvin Library Board, Board of Adjustments and Appeals, Parks & Recreation Board, and Senior Citizens Board.

For more information, please contact the City Secretary's Office at 281-388-4255 or [droberts@cityofalvin.com](mailto:droberts@cityofalvin.com)

**Staff Spotlight****Jorge Cardenas**

**Public Services Department**  
**Utility Worker II**



**Length of time working for the City of Alvin:**  
6 years

**Three things most people don't know about you:** 1) I ran the Texas Bridge Series, 2) I've completed a full Tough Mudder, and 3) I love to dance, especially with my wife.

**What would people be surprised if they knew:** I was an altar boy when I was younger.

**What is your Motto or personal mantra:** I don't get paid for what I do, I get paid for what I know.

**What have you always wanted to try but never have:** Watch a final match of the a World Cup in person.